

Paper No.: ____

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): PARENT, Richard A.
Title: HITCH RECEIVER/IMPLEMENT THREADED FASTENING
ASSEMBLY
Serial No.: Unassigned
Filed: Herewith
Examiner: John R. Cottingham Art Unit: 3679
Date: 22 December 2003

Mail Stop DD
Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56

Transmitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement disclosing information which has come to the attention of applicant(s) and/or their agents and is being submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant reserves the right to present the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

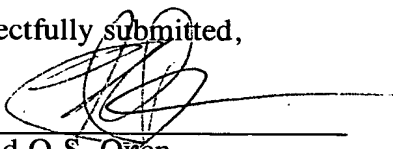
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98, transmitted herewith is a completed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 "Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant" listing the patents, publications and other information being submitted for consideration.

As this application was filed after 30 June 2003, copies of the U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08 are not required and, therefore, not included herewith.

Furthermore, the present application is a continuation of application of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/411,841, which was filed on October 4, 1999. Documents listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08 were disclosed to or cited by the Patent Office in the earlier U.S. application and are available in that application. However, applicants will furnish the Patent Office with such copies upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Gerald O.S. Oyen
Registration No. 27,280
tel: 604.669.3432 ext. 218
fax: 604.681.4081
e-mail: goyen@patentable.com

Vancouver, B.C.
CANADA

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Richard A. Parent
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	John R. Cottingham
Attorney Docket Number	P183 0018

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US- 6,099,012	08-08-2000	Mortimer	
	AB	US- 6,173,984		Kay	
	AC	US- 3,572,778	03-1971	Cassel	
	AD	US- 6,186,531		Parent	
	AE	US- 4,817,978	04-04-1989	James	
	AF	US- 4,746,138	05-24-1988	James	
	AG	US- 5,244,133	09-14-1993	Abbott et al.	
	AH	US- 5,344,175	09-06-1994	Speer	
	AI	US- 4,856,686	08-15-1989	Workentine	
	AJ	US- 4,050,714	09-27-1977	Epp	
	AK	US- 4,131,296	12-26-1978	Strader	
	AL	US- 4,552,377	11-12-1985	Folkerts	
	AM	US- 4,773,668	09-27-1988	Muonro	
	AN	US- 4,807,899	02-28-1989	Belcher	
	AO	US- 5,000,067	03-19-1991	Kolbusz et al.	
	AP	US- 5,011,178	04-30-1991	Sanderson	
	AQ	US- 5,322,315	06-21-1994	Carsten	
	AR	US- 5,333,888	08-02-1994	Ball	
	AS	US- 5,380,030	01-10-1995	Gullickson	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	
Filing Date	
First Named Inventor	Richard A. Parent
Art Unit	3679
Examiner Name	John R. Cottingham
Attorney Docket Number	P183 0018

Sheet **2** of **2****U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AT	US- 5,380,030	01-10-1995	Gullickson	
	AU	US- 5,423,566	06-13-1995	Warrington et al.	
	AV	US- 5,540,065	07-30-1996	Wyers	
	AW	US- 5,615,904	04-01-1997	Van Dusen et al.	
	AX	US- 5,685,686	11-11-1997	Burns	
	AY	US- 5,730,456	03-24-1998	Bowers	
	AZ	US- 5,823,560	10-20-1998	Van Vleet	
	BA	US- 5,593,172	01-14-1997	Breslin	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.